

ITEMPO 1700173 2002344Z FRP BRIEFER I)

16/ /

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FRP: ,2, , ,5, , ,8

STATE

25X1

83 1700173 SCO

PAGE 001

NC 1700173

TOR: 192333Z JUL 83

00 RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
UTS3010
00 RUEHC
DE RUEHBL #7957 2001537
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 191535Z JUL 83
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1776
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0498
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0468
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0658
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 0478
RUEHRH/USELO RIYADH 0431
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0639
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 0623
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 07957

JUL 19 8 01 PM '83

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, LE
SUBJECT: THE LATEST ROUND OF LEBANESE FORCES/DRUZE FIGHTIN

1. (U) SERIOUS FIGHTING BETWEEN THE LEBANESE FORCES AND
DRUZE MILITIAMEN BEGAN LAST WEEKEND ON SATURDAY, JULY 16,
AND HAS CONTINUED OFF AND ON UNTIL TODAY, JULY 19.
THE FIGHTING HAS CONSISTED MAINLY OF ARTILLERY DUELS.
THE SHUF, THE MATN AND THE COAST BETWEEN EAST BEIRUT AND
JUNIYAH HAVE BEEN SHELLED. TWO PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

83 1700173 SCO

PAGE 002
TOR: 192333Z JUL 83

NC 1700173

17 WOUNDED BY THE SHELLING ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. TWO
CEASEFIRES HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED BUT BOTH WERE LATER BROKEN.

2. (U) THE SHELLING BEGAN ON SATURDAY EVENING IN THE
DAYRAL-QAMAR-BAQLIN AREA OF THE SHUF. LATER, BAYT-AD-DIN,
KHALMAT, KFARHIM AND OTHER SHUF AREAS WERE ALSO SHELLED,
RESULTING IN THE WOUNDING OF TEN PEOPLE. MEANWHILE, THE
EAST BEIRUT SUBURBS OF HAZMIYAH, FAYYADIYAH AND DIKWANAH
WERE ALL SHELLED. INDEPENDENT L'ORIENT-LE JOUR REPORTS
THAT SOME SHELLS ALSO LANDED IN THE GALERIE SIMAAN AREA,
IN THE SOUTHEAST PART OF BEIRUT PROPER. THE FIRST OF
SEVERAL LF-DRUZE CEASEFIRES WAS CONCLUDED AT 2145 ON
SATURDAY EVENING AND TOOK EFFECT 30 MINUTES LATER.

3. (U) THIS CEASEFIRE WAS BROKEN ROUGHLY 17 HOURS LATER
AT AROUND 1500 ON SUNDAY, JULY 17, WHEN THE SHELLING
RECOMMENCED IN THE SHUF. LF POSITIONS AT KAHR QATRA AND
KNAYSAN, AND DRUZE POSITIONS AT DAYR KUSHAN AND BISHTIN
ENGAGED IN ARTILLERY DUELS. THERE WAS ALSO SHELLING
BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES ON THE EDGE OF THE SHUF IN THE
ALAYH AREA. A CEASEFIRE WAS ARRANGED AT 1700, BUT WAS
BROKEN SHORTLY THEREAFTER AT 1915. THERE WAS ALSO SHELLING
OF THE BEACHES AROUND JUNIYAH ON SUNDAY EVENING; MORE
THAN 17 DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE CITY WERE HIT, ACCORDING
TO THE LOCAL PRESS.

4. [REDACTED] TOURED A BROAD AREA OF THE SHUF ON MONDAY
MORNING, JULY 18, INCLUDING KAHRHIM, MUKHTARA AND BAYT'AD-
DIN. TRAFFIC WAS VERY LIGHT, BUT THE AREA WAS QUIET EX-
CEPT FOR SOME IDF SMALL ARMS FIRE AT MUKHTARAH.

25X1

5. (U) WE HAVE REPORTS TODAY, JULY 19, THAT THERE WAS
MORE SHELLING DURING THE NIGHT OF JULY 18-19 IN THE
BAQLIN-KAHRHIM AREA OF THE SHUF, BUT THE SHUF IS NOW
REPORTED TO BE REASONABLY CALM. NO NEW CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN
ANNOUNCED.

6. (C) COMMENT: THERE IS NO SINGLE INCIDENT WE CAN POINT
TO AS HAVING TRIGGERED THIS LATEST ROUND OF DRUZE-LF
FIGHTING. SOME LOCAL PRESS ARTICLES SPECULATE THAT THE
FIGHTING IS THE RESULT OF FRIDAY'S LAF-AMAL FIGHTING IN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

83 1700173 SCO

PAGE 003

NC 1700173

TOR: 192333Z JUL 83

THE WADI ABU JAMIL AREA OF WEST BEIRUT. PUGH

END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL